

BTE:GER:MIH:llenbrand:cbs
4/9/62 (Working Office and Officer)

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EXCISE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Memorandum of Conversation

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XR 711.561

XN

DATE: April 6, 1962
Mr. Kohler's Office
3:00 p.m.

SUBJECT: Berlin and Related Subjects

PARTICIPANTS: Germany

United States

Ambassador Greve
Mr. Frederick Ruth

Mr. Kohler
Mr. Hillenbrand

COPIES TO: S/S / Ambassador Bonn
SAP / Ambassador Moscow
G / USBR BERLIN
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EUR / Ambassador Paris
BTF / Ambassador Paris - USRO
SOV / Ambassador Paris - SHAPE - Mr. Stoessel

OSD-ISA - Mr. Nitze
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Mr. Kohler noted that we were at the present moment studying the transcripts of the Geneva talks and were working on a revision of our "Draft Principles Paper" which, without changing the substance, tried to use some of the Soviet language. Ambassador Greve asked whether he had any idea where the suggestion had come from that Soviets might represent the East Germans under their version of an International Access Authority. Mr. Kohler said he did not know, but perhaps the thought had been suggested by Ulbricht's statement. Mr. Kohler indicated we were wondering whether we should not study our paper on an International Access Authority in the light of this. We thought we would be in touch with our Allies the beginning of next week, and were rather thinking of an approach to Dobrynin perhaps by the end of the week. Ambassador Greve asked whether we had definitely decided to shift the locus from Moscow to Washington. Mr. Kohler said we were thinking of trying the Dobrynin channel for a change. He came here highly recommended and it might be worthwhile seeing how this channel would work. Perhaps talks might develop both here and in Moscow, but we had not really thought this matter through. In response to Ambassador Greve's question as to whether we contemplated having talks with Dobrynin at the level of the Secretary of State, Mr. Kohler said perhaps we could use the Geneva formula of varying both the number of people present as well as the level. This would have to be played by ear, but the Secretary would at least probably wish to launch the discussions.

Ambassador Greve asked whether we felt there were any chance of bringing the French into the conversations. Mr. Kohler said this was a problem we obviously had to consider. He had told this to Alphand the other day. We were reaching the point where it was difficult to distinguish between explorations and negotiations. If we began to get somewhere along the lines of our "Draft Principles", the idea of setting up a Deputy Foreign Ministers' Forum would immediately pose the question of French participation.

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